



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/016,074	12/05/2001	James W. Coiner	47500/VGG/C614	6959
23363	7590	08/17/2004	EXAMINER	
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP			LOCKER, HOWARD J	
PO BOX 7068				
PASADENA, CA 91109-7068			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1661	

DATE MAILED: 08/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/016074

Applicant(s)

Coiner

Examiner

Howard J. Locker

Group Art Unit

1661

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE Three MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

## Status

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on June 7, 2004

☐ This action is FINAL.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- ☒ The claim is ~~is~~ pending in the application.
- ☐ Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) is/are allowed.
- ☒ The claim is ~~is~~ rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
- ☐ received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

## Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Office Action Summary

10/016074

Part of Paper No. 0812

U.S.  
PTO

1. The following is a quotation of section (a) of 37 CFR 1.163:

"(a) The specification must contain as full and complete a disclosure as possible of the plant and the characteristics thereof that distinguish the same over related known varieties and its antecedents, and must particularly point out where and in what manner the variety of plant has been asexually reproduced. In the case of a newly found plant, the specification must particularly point out the location and character of the area where the plant was discovered."

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

"The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor in carrying out his invention."

In plant applications filed under 36 U.S.C. 161, the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112 are limited. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 162:

"No plant patent shall be declared invalid for noncompliance with section 112 of this title if the description is as complete as is reasonably possible. The claim in the specification shall be in formal terms to the plant shown and described."

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

"The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which applicant regards as his invention."

As specific to United States Plant Patent applications, the specifics of 37 CFR 1.164 (reproduced below) are controlling:

“The claim shall be in formal terms to the new and distinct variety of the specified plant as described and illustrated, and may also recite the principal distinguishing characteristics. More than one claim is not permitted.”

The disclosure is objected to under 37 CFR 1.163(a) and under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification presents less than a full, clear, and complete botanical description of the plant and the characteristics which define same per se, and which distinguish same over related or similar known varieties and antecedents.

A. Under “CLASSIFICATION” the word “plant” should be added after “*Rosa hybrida*”.

B. As stated previously, the instant plant looks to bear both small and large prickles. Such should be properly and meaningfully accounted for in the specification relative to quantity, size, location (if localized), and coloration. In addition, the new recitation of “triangle shaped” relative to thorns could be stated better as such does not appear to be especially accurate.

C. The color designation set forth for new wood should be reviewed for accuracy and amended so as to reasonably correspond to the true and characteristic coloration thereof, rather than accounting only for the anthocyanin coloration present on same.

Art Unit: 1661

D. At line 26 of page 4, the recitation "Resistance to Disease: Average" should be amended to be more meaningful, particularly as additional time for systematic observation of this plant feature has now elapsed.

E. Confusing information is now present in the specification relative to sepal coloration. At lines 21-22 of page 5, upper and lower surface sepal coloration is set forth, and then at lines 26-27 of page 5 different color designations are set forth for the upper and lower surfaces of same. Correction and/or clarification is necessary.

F. Confusing information is present in the specification relative to sepal length. At line 19 of page 5, such is set forth as being about one inch, while at line 25 of page 5 sepal length is set forth as  $1 \frac{3}{8}$  inches (notably, bud length is set forth as being about  $1 \frac{1}{2}$  inches at line 8 of page 5). Correction and/or clarification is necessary.

G. That the peduncle is properly or reasonably characterized as being "smooth" does not reasonably correspond to the plant as illustrated. Such is most evident in the originally presented photographic illustration, but is also evident in the photographic illustration filed on June 7, 2004.

H. The petal dimensions set forth in the specification should be reviewed for accuracy and amended as necessary, as such do not appear to reasonably correspond with the bloom diameter of "about  $5 \frac{2}{3}$  inches" as set forth at page 6. In the alternative, if the recited bloom diameter is in error, it should likewise be amended to properly and faithfully reflect that which is true and characteristic of the plant.

I. Characteristic petal margin should be set forth in the specification in the interest of providing as complete a botanical description of the plant as is reasonably

Applicant should carefully review and address each of the above, and should review the instant disclosure and import into same any additional or corrected information which would aid in botanically identifying and/or distinguishing the cultivar for which United States Plant Patent protection is being sought.

2. The claim is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first and second paragraphs, as not being supported by a clear and complete botanical description of the plant, for the reasons advanced in paragraph 1 above.

3. Applicant is advised of the new mandatory procedures for amending the specification and claim under 37 CFR 1.121. Applicant may review same on the Internet at the following site:

<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/revamdtprac.htm>

4. Effective May 1, 2003, the USPTO has a new Commissioner for Patents address. Correspondence in patent related matters to organizations reporting to the Commissioner for Patents must now be addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

For further information regarding the new address, see Correspondence with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 68 Fed. Reg. 14332 (March 25, 2003).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Howard J. Locker whose telephone number is 571-272-0980, and whose normal work hours are Monday through Thursday, from 6:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Andrew Wang, can be reached at 571-272-0811.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 1600 receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-1600.

### **TELECOPY/FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

Papers related to this application may be submitted to TC 1600 by facsimile transmission. The faxing of such papers must conform to the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The official fax number for TC 1600 is: 703-872-9306.

Howard J. Locker/hjl  
August 12, 2004

  
HOWARD J. LOCKER  
EXAMINER  
GROUP ART UNIT *1661*